

Schweitzer's digital technology as replacement equipment or in new installations has led to reduced design work in protection and control systems, flexible operation options and increased reliability, resulting in reduced cost.

Recently, Speaker JOHN A. BOEHNER and I had the pleasure of touring and meeting the newest employee-owners at SEL's headquarters in Pullman, Washington. The Speaker and I were touched by the sincerity and pride each of SEL's employees have in their work—a direct reflection of the Dr. Schweitzer's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating one of America's great innovators and modern day pioneers, Dr. Edmund O. Schweitzer, III, on receiving the 2012 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Medal in Power Engineering.

HONORING MRS. CAROLYN B. PARKS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, the lives of many have been touched by the life of one—Mrs. Carolyn B. Parks; and

Whereas, Mrs. Carolyn B. Parks is the District I Vice President of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA), she has been and continues to be involved in promoting business and community by informing, educating and giving support to our citizens in our District; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community through her tireless works, words of encouragement and empowerment; and

Whereas, Mrs. Carolyn B. Parks has given DeKalb County and the Metropolitan Atlanta area, tools that enhance lives, supports our youth, protect our seniors and promotes our community businesses; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Carolyn B. Parks for her outstanding leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim July 27, 2012 as Carolyn B. Parks Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of July, 2012.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I was detained on June 20, 2012, and was unable to be on the House floor to vote. Had I been there, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 389: H. Res. 691, On Ordering the Previous Question: "yes."

Rollcall 390: H. Res. 691, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4480: "yes."

Rollcall 391: Walz of Minnesota Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348: "yes."

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ZACHARY DANIEL MERRITT

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to offer my heartiest congratulations to Lieutenant Commander Zachary Daniel Merritt of the United States Navy on his recent promotion. This is certainly a momentous occasion and one worthy of great commendation.

Lieutenant Commander Merritt was born and raised in my hometown of York, Pennsylvania. He graduated from the Naval Reserves Officer Training Corps at Penn State University with a Bachelor's Degree in nuclear engineering. He was commissioned at Penn State in December 2004.

Lieutenant Commander Merritt served his junior officer tour aboard the U.S.S. *Michigan* and later served on the faculty of the Naval Submarine School, where he earned the distinction of "Instructor of the Year." He currently serves as the Engineer aboard the U.S.S. *Alexandria*.

Lieutenant Commander Merritt's outstanding record of service to our country is certainly worthy of great praise. All Americans are forever indebted to him and his family for their dedicated service and deep commitment to our country. I am certain that Lieutenant Commander Merritt's fellow citizens, family, friends and colleagues join me congratulating him on his recent promotion.

RECOMMENDING THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER BE FOUND IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in the history of the House of Representatives, the House Majority has brought a contempt vote against the Attorney General of the United States, even though he has complied with federal law. This act is purely political and unnecessary.

Chairman Issa has admitted that he has no evidence that the Attorney General authorized, condoned, or was even aware of Operation Fast and Furious, nor does he have any evidence of wrongdoing. Rather, the evidence shows that as soon as the Attorney General was aware of the gunwalking program he immediately halted it and ordered an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General. To date, the Attorney General has provided thousands of pages of documents and testified before Congress nine times. The House Majority's unprecedented political attack, despite any evidence of wrongdoing, flies in the face of our justice system and is a disservice to the American people.

The death of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry is tragic, and the criminals responsible for his death should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Sadly, the goal of today's vote is not to bring justice for Agent Terry, secure our border, eliminate illegal guns, or even uphold the law. Today's vote is an attempt to discredit the President of the United States and the Attorney General through whatever means necessary, with no regard to evidence, a fair process, or the truth.

The American people want Congress to focus on growing the economy. If Congress does not act by the end of this year, taxes will rise on every American, and the government will face massive budget cuts that our economy cannot afford. The House should be focused on creating jobs for Americans, not ending the tenure of the Attorney General.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF GAIL MILLAR

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and I would like to take a moment to recognize the career and the retirement of Gail Millar, the General Counsel for the House Budget Committee, and to thank her for the service she has provided to not just the Committee, but to the Congress and the United States of America in a wide variety of roles. Ms. Millar is retiring after more than three decades of dedicated service to our Nation as an employee of the Federal Government.

In 1981, she began her time on Capitol Hill by joining the Senate Budget Committee under Senator Pete Domenici and became Chief Counsel. She went from there to the Senate Parliamentarian's Office and stayed there from 1984 through 1988. After the departure of the Senate Parliamentarian, Bob Dove, she took on the enormous responsibility in 1987 as First Assistant to the new Parliamentarian, Alan Frumin. He has characterized her as a "great colleague, smart, courageous, reliable, loyal, and tough as nails."

When she announced that she was leaving the office, Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd made a personal appeal for her to stay with the Office.

Even so, soon after, Ms. Millar began as an assistant counsel for the Congressional Budget Office, rising to General Counsel during her stay there, which lasted from 1989 to 2000. Ms. Millar's area of expertise was budget scorekeeping and working with budget analysts and program analysts on budget issues.

She also served from 2000 to 2002 as clerk for the Subcommittee on Commerce, State, Justice, the Judiciary and Related Agencies at the House Committee on Appropriations. After that position, she worked from 2002 to 2005 as associate director for budget policy and management in the Office of Technical Assistance at the Department of the Treasury, a job in which she and her staff advised governments around the world about how to put in place budget processes and procedures to advance their nations.

In 2005, she began serving as Chief Counsel to the Senate Budget Committee before